

**1979/75. Activities of transnational corporations in southern Africa and their collaboration with the racist minority régimes in that area**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974 containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Recalling also the resolutions adopted by the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its third and fourth sessions on the activities of transnational corporations in southern Africa and their collaboration with the racist minority régimes in that area,<sup>80</sup>

Recalling further the Maputo Declaration in Support of the Peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia and Programme of Action for the Liberation of Zimbabwe and Namibia,<sup>81</sup> the Lagos Declaration for Action against Apartheid,<sup>82</sup> and General Assembly resolution S-9/2 of 3 May 1978,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations entitled "The activities of the transnational corporations in the industrial, mining and military sectors of southern Africa",<sup>83</sup>

Gravely concerned at the continued collaboration by transnational corporations with the racist minority régimes in southern Africa, in contravention of United Nations resolutions,

Gravely concerned further about the adverse trends in policies of home Governments which encourage transnational corporations to continue to collaborate with the racist minority régimes in southern Africa in violation of United Nations resolutions and in defiance of the legitimate aspirations of the oppressed peoples,

Considering that the cessation of the activities of transnational corporations in the area would constitute an important step in the struggle against the racist minority régimes,

Conscious of the continued need to enlist the active support of the home Governments of transnational corporations which operate in the territories occupied by the racist minority régimes,

Welcoming as a positive step measures taken by some home Governments to curtail the activities of their transnational and other corporations in southern Africa,

Mindful of the imperative need to maintain and strengthen international solidarity in support of the legitimate struggle of the oppressed peoples in southern Africa for self-determination and independence,

Recognizing the importance of mobilizing world public opinion against the involvement and collaboration of transnational corporations with the racist minority régimes in southern Africa,

<sup>80</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 5 (E/5986)*, para. 14, and *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1978, Supplement No. 12 (E/1978/52 and Corr.1-3)*, para. 1.

<sup>81</sup> See *Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1977*, document S/12344/Rev.1, annex V.

<sup>82</sup> A/CONF.91/9 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.XIV.2 and corrigendum), sect. X.

<sup>83</sup> E/C.10/51.

1. Takes note of the report of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations entitled "The activities of the transnational corporations in the industrial, mining and military sectors of southern Africa";

2. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the oppressed peoples of southern Africa to self-determination and permanent sovereignty over their natural resources and all economic activities;

3. Reiterates that the activities of transnational corporations in the area and their collaboration with the racist minority régimes are detrimental to the interests of the oppressed peoples in South Africa, Southern Rhodesia and Namibia;

4. Recognizes the urgent need to take further and effective measures including sanctions, in order to terminate the continuing collaboration by transnational and other corporations with the racist minority régimes in southern Africa;

5. Calls upon all Governments to adhere strictly to and ensure the effective implementation of sanctions and decisions already adopted by the General Assembly and the Security Council;

6. Strongly condemns the continued investments and the exploitation of black labour by transnational and other corporations which continue to collaborate with the racist minority régimes in southern Africa in contravention of United Nations resolutions, thereby contributing to the perpetuation of oppression and other inhuman practices perpetrated against the majority of the population by the racist minority régimes;

7. Further condemns recent laws and regulations, such as that curtailing the flow of information on the activities of foreign subsidiaries, adopted by the racist minority régimes, particularly South Africa, in order to enlist the support of transnational corporations in the perpetuation of its inhuman policies of apartheid, and calls upon home Governments to adopt measures to ensure that transnational corporations of their nationality do not collaborate in the enforcement of such laws and regulations;

8. Urges all transnational corporations to comply fully with the relevant United Nations resolutions by terminating all further investments in the area and by ending their collaboration with the racist minority régimes;

9. Calls upon all Governments which have not yet done so to take legislative, administrative, judicial and other measures in respect of their nationals and transnational corporations of their nationality owning or operating enterprises in the area in order to put an end to such activities;

10. Calls further upon all States to terminate all forms of collaboration by their nationals and by transnational and other corporations of their nationality with the racist minority régimes in southern Africa and, in particular:

(a) To refrain from supplying petroleum, petroleum products or other strategic materials to the racist minority régimes;

(b) To refrain from extending loans, investments and technical assistance to the racist minority régimes in southern Africa and to corporations registered in those territories;

(c) To prohibit economic and financial interests under their national jurisdiction from co-operating with the racist minority régimes and enterprises registered in southern Africa;

(d) To refrain from all activities which may directly or indirectly contribute to the strengthening of the military capability of the racist minority régimes;

(e) To deny tariff and other preferences to exports from the territories occupied by the racist minority régimes in southern Africa as well as any inducements or guarantees for investment and trade in the area;

(f) To prohibit all persons and enterprises of their nationality from making any royalty or tax payments to, or from knowingly transferring any assets or other financial resources in contravention of United Nations resolutions to facilitate trade with or investments in the territories occupied by the racist minority régimes;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To instruct the Secretariat to continue its useful research on the activities of transnational corporations in southern Africa and their collaboration with the racist minority régimes in the area;

(b) To submit to the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its sixth session, an in-depth analysis of the role of transnational corporations in the indus-

trial, military and nuclear sectors of South Africa, Southern Rhodesia and Namibia;

(c) To update and expand the list of transnational corporations which recognize and negotiate with non-white and multiracial trade unions as well as those which do not, contained in the report mentioned in paragraph 1 above;

(d) To continue to collect and publicize information on the activities of transnational corporations which collaborate directly or indirectly with the racist minority régimes in southern Africa in contravention of United Nations resolutions;

(e) To organize symposia, workshops, seminars and other public enlightenment programmes, in collaboration with other United Nations bodies concerned, with a view to educating the general public in the home countries of transnational corporations on the activities of those corporations in southern Africa and the extent of their collaboration with the racist minority régimes in the area.

*40th plenary meeting  
3 August 1979*